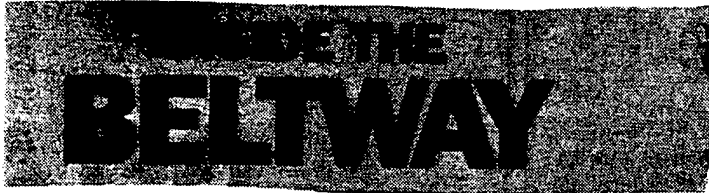


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The New York Times _____
 The Washington Times A-6
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The Christian Science Monitor _____
 New York Daily News _____
 USA Today _____
 The Chicago Tribune _____

Date 11 Nov. 87



Dubious distinction

A reporter for the official Soviet government newspaper Izvestia recently bragged to an American reporter that his newspaper, under the new official openness policy of "glasnost," won the dubious distinction of becoming the first Soviet publication to publish excerpts of Bob Woodward's controversial account of U.S. intelligence operations.

The book, "Veil: The Secret Wars of the CIA, 1981-1987," has been denounced by some present and former intelligence officials as a mixture of fact and fiction, and the CIA voiced concern about the possible damage the book's revelations might cause for secret U.S. intelligence operations.

Mr. Woodward has maintained that his book, which reveals details about some of the most secret U.S. underwater eavesdropping operations against the Soviet Union, is "precise."

The Soviet reporter would not say whether Izvestia had purchased reprint rights from Mr. Woodward's New York publisher, although the Soviet Union in the past has been known to ignore international copyright conventions in publishing foreign works.